

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An assembly for lifting a boat locatable adjacent a dock comprising a pair of elongate pilings having a lower end portion mounted into the floor of a body of water near [[a]] the dock and an upper end portion extending upwardly adjacent [[a]] the dock, a cradle for carrying a boat, lifting means connected to said cradle for moving said cradle substantially vertically, said lifting means connected to said cradle for moving said cradle substantially vertically, said lifting means including a movable member attached to [[a]] the dock, and cable means mounted to each said piling and being connected between said movable member and said cradle, said movable member being movable between a first position for lifting said cradle and a second position for lowering said cradle, said movable member including a hydraulic operating means having an extensible piston arm and a stationary cylinder, said cable means mounted to said piston arm, said cable means including a first pulley mounted to said piston arm and a second pulley mounted to [[a]] the dock adjacent said first pulley and a third pulley mounted to [[a]] the dock at a location spaced away from said second pulley, a first cable having one end attached to said cradle and a second cable having one end attached to said cradle spaced away from said first cable, a bracket for affixing other ends of both said cables to [[a]] the dock at a single location, said first cable threaded around said second pulley and said first pulley, said second cable threaded around said third pulley and said second pulley and said first pulley such that the vertical distance of movement of said cradle is twice the distance of movement of said piston arm when said hydraulic operating means is operated for moving said cradle vertically.

2. (cancelled)

3. (original) The assembly as defined in Claim 1 wherein said lifting means includes at least one pulley on each said piling for mounting said cable means to each said piling.

4. (currently amended) The assembly as defined in Claim 1 further including a pair of guide members mounted between said cradle and a respective said piling, [[each]] one

said guide member being slidably engaged with [[each]] said piling, another said guide member being slidably engaged with another said piling for inhibiting lateral movement of said cradle when said cradle is being moved vertically.

5. (original) The assembly as defined in Claim 4 wherein each said guide member is rigidly mounted to said cradle and slidably engaged with a respective said piling.

6. (original) The assembly as defined in Claim 5 wherein each said guide member includes rollers mounted against said respective piling.

7. (currently amended) The assembly as defined in Claim 5, wherein said cradle further includes a pair of bunk rails each having one end secured to a respective one of said pair of guide members and each having one free end disposed substantially perpendicularly to said respective guide members, said cradle further including a pair of elongate bunks secured onto and extending transversely across said pair of bunk rails for maintaining a water vessel boat therebetween.

8. (original) The assembly as defined in Claim 7, further including

    a second pair of pilings oppositely spaced from said first pair of pilings and mounted adjacent said free ends of said pair of bunk rails and onto a floor of a body of water; and

    a second pair of guide members secured to respective free ends of said pair of bunk rails and movable along said second pair of pilings for providing stability to said cradle as said cradle moves along said pair of pilings.

9. (currently amended) The assembly as defined in Claim 1 wherein said pilings are inclined from the vertical direction with said lower end portion of each said piling being located outwardly of [[a]] the dock and said upper end portion of each said piling being closely adjacent dock.

10. (cancelled).

11. (cancelled).

12. (cancelled).

13. (cancelled).

14. (cancelled).

15. (cancelled).

16. (cancelled).

17. (currently amended) A boat lift mounted to a dock comprising a cable-handling system unit including:

a pair of elongate pilings each having one end mounted into a floor of a body of water and an opposite end extending above an edge of [[a]] the dock,

a movable piston arm and an oppositely disposed stationary cylinder end secured to [[a]] the dock,

a first plurality of pulleys, at least one pulley of said first plurality of pulleys being attached to said piston arm,

a second plurality of pulleys cooperating with said first plurality of pulleys and disposed ~~outside of said cable handling unit~~, respectively;

a cradle for supporting a boat thereon and being operatively movable in a substantially vertical direction along said pair of pilings;

a pair of elongate cables each having one end routed through said at least one pulley attached to said piston arm and extending to and affixed to said cradle and an opposite end secured to the deck said cable handling unit and routed through said first and second pluralities of pulleys, said first plurality of pulleys directing said cables in a substantially horizontal direction and said second plurality of pulleys guiding said cables vertically adjacent said pair of pilings,

said piston arm being extensible to a first position away from said cylinder end for lowering said cradle vertically adjacent said pair of pilings and being retractable to a second position for raising said cradle vertically adjacent said pair of pilings, said piston arm and said cylinder end being disposed horizontally to reduce the visual profile of said cable handling system unit.

18. (original) The boat lift of Claim 17 wherein said cradle includes a pair of guide members for slidably moving said cradle along said pair of pilings.

19. (cancelled).

20. (cancelled).

21. (cancelled).

22. (new) The boat lift as defined in Claim 17 further including a third pulley mounted to said cable handling unit supported by the dock spaced away from said second plurality of pulleys, a bracket attached to said piston arm adjacent said at least one pulley of said first plurality of pulleys for affixing said opposite ends of both said cables to said bracket, a plurality of fourth pulleys mounted to said cable handling unit, one said cable being threaded around respective said second pulley and said first pulley, respective another said cable being threaded around said third pulley and respective said second pulley and said first pulley, said first and second cables being threaded around said fourth pulley such that the vertical distance of movement of said cradle is three times the distance of movement of said piston arm when moving said cradle vertically.

23. (new) The assembly as defined in Claim 22 further including a pair of guide members mounted between said cradle and each said piling for inhibiting lateral movement of said cradle when said cradle is being moved vertically.

24. (new) The assembly as defined in Claim 23 wherein each said guide member is rigidly mounted to said cradle and slidably engaged with a respective said piling.

25. (new) The assembly as defined in Claim 24 wherein each said guide member includes rollers mounted against said respective said piling.

26. (new) The assembly of Claim 23 wherein each said one end of said cables is secured to respective said pair of guide members for raising and lowering said cradle.

27. (new) The assembly of Claim 26 wherein said cradle further includes a pair of bunk rails each having one end secured to respective said pair of guide members and each having one free end disposed substantially perpendicularly to said respective guide members, said cradle further including a pair of elongate bunks secured onto and extending transversely across said pair of bunk rails for maintaining a water vessel therebetween.